with the Nilgiris district, ' wherever it might go ' and arising out of that, I wanted to know whether he could clarify the doubt which it has given rise to.

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : Because it was well-known where the Nilgiris district belonged, I thought that it was not necessary to mention it again.

SRI V. K. RAMASWAMY MUDALIAR : Sir, the other parties are going about saying that they are more interested in the formation of pure Tamil Nad; are not the Government here equally interested in taking public opinion into consideration?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : After all political parties should exist and they should have some points to make. I think we should not deny them even that much of advantage which they should have for their existence.

SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR : While answering my earlier supplementary question, the Hon. Minister stated that he did not know the representative character of the delegation that met him and that a few persons met him and that they represented nobody. May I know from the Hon. Minister whether he has received a written representation from the people stating that they represented such and such a Conference, etc., and if so, whether with reference to that the Hon. Minister is right in saying that those people did not represent anybody? May I also know whether he is aware of the fact that he, the Hon. Minister, does not represent the wishes, hopes and aspirations of Malabar or the people of Malabar, but that he represents only himself and some sections of the people, except the people of Malabar?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : I do not claim to represent Malabar or the wishes of the people of Malabar. But with regard to the point mentioned, it was stated that some conference of some people was held somewhere. Not only sectional conferences are held like this; we know that even International Conferences are being held inside a room and it cannot be said that it is representative of international opinion—I made that known when Mr. Nambiar was also present. Simply because some conference of some people is held somewhere, it cannot be said that it represents the wishes of the people.

Block Development Officer, Alangudi

* 3405 *Q.*—SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Block Development Officer, one Sri S. Narayanaswamy Ayyar who started the Alangudi Block Development Area in Tiruchirappalli district was transferred from Pudukkottai at the request of the Secretary of the Pudukottai Congress Committee; and

(*b*) if so, why?

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THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (a) & (b) The transfer was made for administrative reasons.

SRI K. P. GOPALAN : May I know whether the transfer was made at the request of the Secretary, Pudukottai Congress Committee?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : I should say ' No ', Sir.

SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Are Government aware that in the work of the officers of the National Development Works, the ruling party as well as Congress Committee are exercising much influence and will Government be pleased to see all parties co-operate in the work of the N.E.S. and National Development and no one political party has a dominating influence on the works themselves and the work of the officers also?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : I do not think that any political party as such has any particular influence with the work or the staff. But those who work the schemes and who co-operate will necessarily have some influence with the organisation.

SRI M. DHARMALINGAM : Are Government aware of the fact that there is inordinate delay, disturbance and handicap in the successful implementation of the N.E.S. Community Development Scheme and Local Development works because of frequent transfers of officers and will the Government be kind enough to consider the necessity of avoiding such frequent transfers merely on the representation of other people who are influential in the locality?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : Transfers are never made frequently and transfers are not made on the representations of any political party or any individual. But transfers are made only when it is found that the particular officer had not turned out any work or when other serious complaints are found against such officers.

SRI S. DAIVASIGAMONEY : Sir, with reference to the second part of the main question, I would like to know whether in fact any request from the Secretary, Pudukottai Congress Committee, was made for the transfer of this officer?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : If I remember aright, I do not think, I have got any such request from the Secretary, Pudukottai Congress Committee, or any other Party. But there were complaints about the work turned out in that block; I have myself heard complaints that no work was turned out in the Block.

Rural water-supply wells

* 3406 *Q.*—SRI N. PARAMASIVA UDAYAR : Will the Hon the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether the public have to contribute 25 per cent of the cost of construction of Rural Water-supply Wells;